

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018
1:20 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 672
SUBMITTING FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND
BURIAL COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
ELDON PATE-KAHAKALAU FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2020**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports Governor's Message 672, nominating Mr. Eldon Pate-Kahakalau to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i, expiring June 30, 2020.

The Island Burial Councils are established under Section 6E-43.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Councils determine whether to preserve in place or relocate previously identified native Hawaiian burial sites, recognize lineal and cultural descendants, and provide counsel and advice to the Department.

Mr. Pate-Kahakalau is the co-founder and instructor of Kanu O Ka 'Āina Charter School. He comes from a strong family background in education, and is very well-versed in his Hawaiian culture and history. His experience provides him with knowledge of the processes of government and its laws, more specifically, the statutes and administrative rules relating to the treatment of iwi kupuna. Mr. Pate-Kahakalau previously served on the Hawaii Island Burial Council as both a member and Chairperson. He exhibited exemplary leadership and has won the respect and aloha of his fellow members.

Senate confirmation will ensure that Mr. Pate-Kahakalau's esteemed knowledge and perspective emerges during the deliberations of the Hawai'i Island Burial Council until June 30, 2020.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



GM672

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE ISLAND BURIAL
COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ELDON PATE-
KAHAKALAU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 12, 2018

1:20 p.m.

Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** GM672, which would confirm Eldon Nalei Pate-Kahakalau as a Hāmākua regional representative to the Hawai'i Island Burial Council.

Mr. Pate-Kahakalau is a very active member in his community and has long demonstrated his commitment to issues of Hawaiian cultural preservation. He has been active in Waipi'o Valley cultural renewal projects and has participated in 'Aha Kāne and Ho'okuikahi at Pu'ukoholā National Park. Also, as a kumu at Kanu O Ka 'Āina Public Charter School, he teaches Hawaiian language, history, and culture to future generations of 'ōpio.

As a long-time Hawai'i Island Burial Council member, and the former Chair of the Council, he has competently handled many difficult and complex cases to ensure proper reverence and care for iwi kūpuna.

For these reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM672 to confirm Mr. Pate-Kahakalau for another term on the Hawai'i Island Burial Council. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

From the office of -
Council Member
District 3



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SUSAN L.K. LEE LOY
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 09, 2018

The Honorable Senator Maile Shimabukuro
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: GM 672: Nomination of Eldon Pate-Kahakalau to the Island Burial Council,
Island of Hawai'i**

1:20 p.m. April 12, Conference Room 016

Dear Senator Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Mr. Eldon Pate-Kahakalau to the Island Burial Council, Island of Hawai'i.

Mr. Pate-Kahakalau brings to the Commission a wealth of experience and institutional knowledge having served in this capacity since being appointed initially in 1996 and again in 2012.

I have every reason to believe Mr. Pate-Kahakalau will continue to provide effective contributions to the Island Burial Council, and the State of Hawai'i will benefit from his experience and leadership.

Aloha Piha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan L.K. Lee Loy".

Susan "Sue" L.K. Lee Loy
Council Member, County of Hawai'i